

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A ring-shaped metal gasket which is disposed between two sealing object members and in which at least two pieces of valley portions dented in a second direction perpendicular to a first direction extending from a contact portion of one sealing object member to the other sealing object member are provided, wherein a metallic ring is fitted to at least one of said valley portions.

Claim 2 (Original): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said metallic rings is fitted to the valley portion on a lower pressure side of a fluid side to be sealed and a non-fluid side on the opposite side.

Claim 3 (Original): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said metallic rings is fitted to the valley portion on a lower temperature side of the fluid side to be sealed and the non-fluid side on the opposite side.

Claim 4 (Original): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 1 wherein said metallic rings are fitted to all the valley portions of the ring-shaped metal gasket.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to ~~any one of claim 1-4~~ claim 1 wherein the maximum dimension in the diameter direction of a longitudinal section is larger than the maximum dimension in a direction perpendicular to the diameter direction.

Claim 6 (Original): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 5 wherein said metallic ring is a metallic O-ring, metallic irregular cross section ring or metallic rectangular cross section ring.

Claim 7 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 2 wherein the maximum dimension in the diameter direction of a longitudinal section is larger than the maximum dimension in a direction perpendicular to the diameter direction.

Claim 8 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 3 wherein the maximum dimension in the diameter direction of a longitudinal section is larger than the maximum dimension in a direction perpendicular to the diameter direction.

Claim 9 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 4 wherein the maximum dimension in the diameter direction of a longitudinal section is larger than the maximum dimension in a direction perpendicular to the diameter direction.

Claim 10 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 7 wherein said metallic ring is a metallic O-ring, metallic irregular cross section ring or metallic rectangular cross section ring.

Claim 11 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 8 wherein said metallic ring is a metallic O-ring, metallic irregular cross section ring or metallic rectangular cross section ring.

Claim 12 (New): The ring-shaped metal gasket according to claim 9 wherein said metallic ring is a metallic O-ring, metallic irregular cross section ring or metallic rectangular cross section ring.